

U.S. warns UNESCO

PARIS (R) — The United States, fighting efforts by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to win international recognition, has warned a U.N. agency against granting the Palestinian membership, a senior U.S. official said Wednesday. Assistant Secretary of State John Bolton said he told the head of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) last Saturday that the United States would stay out of the Paris-based agency for good if the State of Palestine were allowed to join. "I told him that if the Palestine Liberation Organization is admitted it will effectively end any U.S. consideration of joining," Bolton told Reuters. The United States left the organization in 1964 — taking its 25 per cent share of the budget with it — followed by Britain and Singapore. All accused UNESCO of being too political and badly-run. Bolton's private meeting with Federico Mayor, director-general of the 159-nation U.N. body, was a further sign of Washington's opposition to the PLO's drive for recognition. Bolton, put in charge of U.S. relations with international organizations in May, is battling on several fronts.

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King sends message to Iraq

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Wednesday received a verbal message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with bilateral relations, the latest Arab developments, and the situation on the Lebanese scene.

The message was delivered by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem during an audience with the Iraqi president Wednesday. Present at the audience was Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

Chinese minister due here Sept. 16

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Cui Chen will pay an official visit to Jordan Sept. 16-18, 1989, at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. During his three-day visit, the Chinese official will meet with senior Jordanian officials and hold talks on issues of mutual interest and current international affairs.

Kuwait to buy \$700m Soviet arms

LONDON (AP) — Kuwait is negotiating with the Soviet Union to buy \$700 million worth of weapons including T-72 tanks and anti-aircraft weapons, Jane's Defence Weekly said Wednesday.

It said the deal, part of a \$5.4 billion upgrading of Kuwait's military strength, dashes American and British hopes of selling tanks to Kuwait, and underlines Moscow's growing influence in the Gulf.

Jane's, a respected journal of military affairs, said the Soviet deal follows an agreement by Kuwait to buy 200 Yugoslav-made M-84, a variant of the T-72 tank, and pay the bill by writing off Yugoslavia debt for oil and petroleum products.

"The new Soviet deal under negotiation would be linked to joint oil ventures."



King visits Air Force Command

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, said Wednesday that Jordan was capable of "adapting itself to the circumstances and surrounding the recent difficulties through the awareness of its sons and the backing of its Arab brothers, foremost of whom is the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Arab Gulf countries and Iraq."

Addressing Royal Air Force officers during a visit he paid Wednesday to the Royal Jordanian Air Force Command, the King stressed that

Jordan "would always side with its brothers under all circumstances and conditions."

The King also called on officers to exert "further efforts and make sacrifices for the best of this homeland."

At the outset of the visit, the Royal Jordanian Air Force commander briefed the King on the air force's duties, responsibilities, and its various training exercises.

The King was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein and Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb.

Strike Paralyses Gaza; 11 shot and wounded

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)

A commercial strike shut down the occupied Gaza Strip's largest city Wednesday in protest against the shooting death of a Palestinian by Israeli soldiers during a stone-throwing protest the day before.

In Khan Yunis, also in the Gaza Strip, soldiers opened fire during a stone-throwing protest demonstration, wounding nine Palestinians, reports said.

The wounded included two 12-year-old boys shot in the legs with plastic bullets and a 22-year-old shot twice in the stomach, hospital officials said.

In the West Bank, the occupation army completed the reopening of schools, which were closed for much of the 20-month Palestinian uprising, by allowing 10th grade students to return to class.

In Gaza City, stores and businesses were closed following the death Tuesday of Ismail Abu Jayyab, 27, who was the leader of a students' group at the closed Islamic University. He had been killed four times without charges during the uprising.

Masked youths set tires ablaze and threw up makeshift roadblocks in several neighbourhoods in Gaza City, which has a population of nearly 200,000 people.

The town of Deir Al Balah, where Abu Jayyab was from, also was shut by a strike.

No casualties were reported in

the protest, but a 39-year-old municipal worker was shot several times by unknown assailants in Gaza City. He was transferred to hospital for surgery.

After Abu Jayyab's death Tuesday, Palestinian witnesses said he was shot by soldiers after a firebomb was thrown at a military vehicle and during stone throwing at troops in downtown Palestine Square.

The English-Language Jerusalem Post quoted a witness as saying Abu Jayyab was shot in the face at close range.

Officials at Shifa hospital, where the wounded Abu Jayyab was brought by soldiers, said he died of a single bullet wound above the right eye.

In the occupied West Bank, the army reported no violence as about 45,000 students returned to high school classes for the first time since January.

The army closed all schools in the West Bank early in the uprising, keeping more than 300,000 students from class. Officials maintained the schools served as hotbeds for organizing stone-throwing protests against soldiers.

Schools were opened briefly twice, but each time they were shut again under military order.

The latest phased reopening, which started July 22, came following complaints by the United States and human rights groups

that closure of schools was unfairly depriving Palestinians of an education.

Schools remained open in the Gaza Strip throughout the uprising, except for individual institutions shut for brief periods. Since West Bank classes resumed, the army has closed several individual schools where protests broke out.

Arabs have requested an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council to condemn Israel's expulsion of five Palestinians from the occupied territories last weekend.

In a letter from Qatar on behalf of the group of Arab states, the Security Council was asked to "consider the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory and in particular the deportation of Palestinian civilians from the occupied Palestinian territory."

The meeting was expected to be held Thursday or Friday, sources said.

Representatives of the European Community (EC) protested to the Israeli foreign ministry Tuesday against the expulsions.

Diplomats from France, Spain and Italy delivered their protest to Yeshayahu Amun, the foreign ministry's deputy director-general.

Israel accused the five Palestinians of leading the uprising. Four were sent to Lebanon and a fifth was sent to France.

100 women protester arrested in Cape Town

CAPE TOWN (Agencies) — About 100 black and white women, including the wife of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, were arrested Wednesday as they began an anti-government protest march in central Cape Town.

Police stopped the women when they emerged from a church hall to march to the British embassy. They intended to ask Britain to protest the South African government's handling of student unrest in the Cape Town area and to intercede on behalf of three black activists facing execution.

In addition to Leah Tutu, those arrested included Mary Burton, a white who heads the Black Sash civil rights group, and Dorothy Bosesak, wife of the Rev. Allan Bosesak, a prominent mixed-race activist who is president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

Many of the marchers sat in street, singing hymns and freedom songs until they were led into police vans and driven away. Scores of onlookers cheered the women.

Protest marches are illegal in South Africa, and the women acted as part of a month-old, nationwide defiance campaign mounted by the anti-apartheid movement.

Tutu, the first black to lead the Anglican church in southern Africa, commented after the arrests: "I am proud of the women... I am very proud of my wife."

"The demonstration was a wonderful success," Tutu said.

The women were disciplined



A South African ambulance carries an injured pregnant woman into a rescue vehicle after police used horsewhips to disperse striking blacks outside a Johannesburg food factory.

Scheer mission under fire

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A French envoy on a Lebanon peace mission dodged shells when artillery duels erupted in Beirut Wednesday while he was talking with Muslim leaders.

Braving gunfire on his way to west Beirut, envoy Francois Scheer was later forced to hold the talks in a corridor as shells crashed around the house where he was meeting a Muslim theologian.

On the other side of the city, two French post office engineers were among four people wounded in shelling of the blockaded Christian enclave, held by troops loyal to army commander Major-General Michel Aoun.

Scheer will report to Soviet leaders in the Kremlin on his consultations in Damascus, Beirut, Amman and Baghdad over the last 10 days, officials reported.

His mission was the first serious Soviet effort to mediate an end to Lebanon's civil war and reflected the Kremlin's growing influence in the region.

Iraq, one of Moscow's main allies in the Arab World, backs forces of west Beirut.

Political sources said Scheer's talks focused on persuading the rival parties to adhere to a ceasefire, stop air, sea and land arms shipments to all Lebanese factions and the formation of a security committee to search ships for weapons.

Arafat said Tarasov's shuttle mission was "helping to defuse the situation in Lebanon."

But the PLO official said Arafat "reiterated the PLO demand for deploying an Arab peacekeeping

force in Lebanon to help police the ceasefire and assist in efforts to end the political crisis."

Security sources said the latest bout of fighting in Beirut broke out between Aoun's men and Syrian forces and their allies as French envoy Scheer drove across the green line dividing Beirut in an armoured plated car.

On schedule, he held talks with Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Sham

seddine, the top religious authority for Lebanon's 1.5 million Shi'ite community.

Two shells fell outside Sham

seddine's house during the meeting, forcing the discussions to be switched to the relative safety of a corridor.

Security sources said five people were wounded in the shelling of west Beirut.

Earlier, Scheer had two hours of talks with Maronite Christian Patriarch Nasrallah Boutros Steir

in his seat in the Christian suburbs of Bikiki, northeast of Beirut.

The din of artillery and mortar

bomb explosions echoed across

the Lebanese capital where over

nights battles killed three people

and wounded 18 others.

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The envoy described the meet-

ing as "useful," but declined

comment on talks he held Tues-

day with Aoun and Syria-backed

acting Prime Minister Salim Al

Hoss.

Scheer, secretary-general of

Rabin, Peres say election

plan running out of steam

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli leaders

admitted Wednesday their propo-

sal for Palestinian elections was

running out of steam amid

mounting violence in the occi-

pied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I cannot deny that the peace"

initiative and efforts to bring a

political solution to negotiations

between Israel and Palestinians

has lost momentum," said Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin,

architect of the plan unveiled five

months ago.

Speaking to reporters while

touring Nablus, the largest West

Bank city, Rabin also warned

Palestinians against escalating the

uprising.

"Violence will be met by force.

They will achieve nothing but

further damage to themselves,"

said Rabin, responsible for

Israel's iron-fist policy against the

rebel.

Vice-Premier Shimon Peres,

leader of their Labour Party, told

visiting Canadian parliamentarians

that Palestinians were in-

creasingly negative towards the

elections idea.

"In the beginning we heard a

half-yes" and now — nearly a

complete no," Peres said.

He contended that Palestinians

in the occupied territories found

it hard to decide on the plan so

long as their "lives were

threatened" for talking to Israel.

Jordan wins bronze

AMMAN: Jordan defeated Tunisia 75-57 in a match played in Damascus Wednesday night at 8th Arab basketball championship for men, which qualified the Jordanian team for the bronze medal.

France's Foreign Ministry, arrived in Beirut Tuesday after two days of talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus seeking to arrange a ceasefire and reactivate the stalled Arab League mediation effort.

The French peace plan calls for lifting blockades imposed by both sides, a halt to arms deliveries to the w

Rival rebel groups involved in heavy fighting

Afghan guerrillas renew rocket attacks on Kabul

KABUL (Agencies) — Government troops have clashed with rebel fighters in several provincial cities, and 10 rockets hit the capital, according to the government spokesman and independent sources.

They also reported heavy fighting between rival guerrilla groups in the north and west of the country.

On Tuesday, President Najib spoke at the opening session of parliament, calling for the United States, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to stop interfering in Afghanistan.

Government spokesman Mohammad Iqbal said one of the rockets injured two people when it destroyed their home.

Seven rockets slammed down around the airport, a shared military and civilian facility. No injuries were reported. Arriving passengers scurried to cars and were told to return Wednesday to collect their luggage, which was being unloaded when the rockets hit about 100 metres away.

Iqbal reported fighting between rebel factions around the western city of Herat and in the northeastern provinces of Badakhshan, Takhar and Kunduz. Iqbal and independent sources said troops of the Hezb-E-Islami rebel group led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar were pitted against the Jamiat-E-Islami guerrillas under provincial commander Ahmad Shah Masood.

Iqbal said at least 22 guerrillas were killed and an unspecified number wounded in the hills and mountains 80 kilometres east of Herat. He did not have statistics for the other areas.

Informed sources in Kabul said

a blood feud appeared to be developing between the rival groups. Jamiat-E-Islami accused Hekmatyar last month of ordering the execution of at least 30 of his guerrillas in the field.

In other fighting, Iqbal said clashes between government troops and the rebels in three eastern cities had ebbed, with close combat replaced by rocket barrages.

He claimed tens of rebel victims and said government troops had advanced east of Jalalabad (120 kilometres, east of Kabul) and parried a guerrilla advance on Khost (150 kilometres, south east of Kabul). He said government troops also defeated a guerrilla force around Kandahar (420 kilometres, south east of Kabul).

In parliament, Najib repeated his call for United Nations-supervised elections throughout Afghanistan. He deplored the human and material losses over the past three months.

In a speech in Jalalabad over the weekend that was released in English Tuesday, Najib said the fighting had been reduced from a jihad, or holy war, to fratricide.

The rebels, based in Pakistan, have been trying to overthrow the Soviet-supported government in Kabul for 10 years, but have failed to achieve a single significant victory since Moscow withdrew the last red army troops in February.

The government blames daily rocket attacks in Kabul and other cities on the rebels, who in turn accuse the government of killing its own people.

Najib has proposed peace plan involving a six-month cease-fire

to be guaranteed by both sides. The rebels have refused to talk with Najib about any interim government or elections.

Meanwhile in Peshawar, Pakistan, Hezb-E-Islami suspended its participation in the Pakistan-based Afghan rebel government Tuesday following reports of clashes with a rival party.

A communiqué from the group said it would not take part in cabinet meetings of the seven-party rebel interim government until elections were held in Afghanistan.

The party's leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar is the foreign minister in the six-month-old rebel government formed after the Soviet Union completed the withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The announcement followed reports Monday from a Hezb spokesman saying that 300 people were killed after rival Jamiat-E-Islami guerrillas attacked his party's followers in northern Afghanistan.

The Hezb communiqué was another serious blow to the divided Afghan rebel movement as the Kabul government seemed to be gaining ground, Afghan exile sources said.

Hezb deputy leader Obaidullah said Monday that the party's guerrillas had been under attack from Jamiat in Takhar and Badakhshan provinces for four weeks. The fighting had also spilled over to other provinces.

Jamiat leader Burhanuddin Rabbani is the reconstruction minister in the rebel government, which is divided over when to hold elections in areas under its control and in Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran.

Sudan to establish popular committees

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's new military government is establishing people's committees this week to govern in the style of Muammar Qaddafi's Libya Jamahiriya.

Lt.-Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir, strongman of the two-month-old administration, said the committees will make government bureaucrats merely coordinators of policies set by a rival party.

"The door is open for each and every citizen wishing to participate in the national work," Bashir said in a speech announcing the new regime.

He said the committees will prove "the people's cohesion with the revolution, to safeguard unity... and face challenges confronting the country."

The Sudanese ruler, who flies to Libya Thursday to help Qaddafi celebrate his 20th anniversary in power, has not indicated whether he will rename Sudan in the Libyan model. So far, Qaddafi has persuaded only one other African country, Burkina Faso, to become a "Jamahiriya."

Qaddafi coined "jamahiriya" in 1977 from the Arabic words for "republic" and "masses" to describe what he claims to be a unique political system of direct popular rule.

As he described it in his "third international theory" in 1973, government policies are supposed to be set by the General People's Congress and implemented by the congress secretariat.

The new Sudanese arrangement will enhance a system already in force in Khartoum under the civilian government.

"We want a new Sudan, cherished by all as they cherish their own children... a Sudan that is not looted by the masters," Bashir said.

Another coup leader, Brigadier Osman Ahmed Mohamed, head of the junta's Political Affairs Committee, discussed the new system in a radio broadcast.

"We are not a political party, we have no prearranged political programme," he said.

Basir

overdrew on June 30.

Its prime minister, Sadeq Al Mahdi, had extremely close ties with Qaddafi.

But the functions of the previous committees have been limited to distribution of bread and alerting police to brothels and places where illegal whisky was made. Dozens of houses in one area of north Khartoum are marked with Xes, their residents chased to remote areas by police or, in the case of prostitutes from Ethiopia, confined to refugee camps south of the city.

"Public order committees" will be established and empowered to "act on their own rather than as advisers to police," Bashir said, but he did not spell out what they would be allowed to do.

Since Bashir's 15-officer junta took power, its spokesman has blamed Sudan's plethora of political parties for the traumas facing the country.

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Tourism group defers PLO membership bid

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Sheikh Jaber ends visit to Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, left Wednesday after a three-day state visit. President Hosni Mubarak saw him off at Cairo International Airport. Sheikh Jaber's visit was highlighted by the signing of several agreements cementing bilateral ties, including a \$2.5 million dollar Kuwaiti loan to develop Egypt's iron and steel works.

Egypt detains member of parliament

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian police have detained 15 members of the militant Muslim Brotherhood, including a member of parliament, on suspicion of recruiting and indoctrinating children, security sources have said. They said police had detained Essam Eryan and 14 other Brotherhood members suspected of recruiting 55 children aged between six and seven in a holiday camp near the Mediterranean city of Alexandria. Twenty-five other children were recruited from another camp, the sources said. Those detained were accused of giving the children religious instruction and inculcating them with the idea Egypt's society should be based on strict Islamic Law, or "sharia". The children have been returned to their parents.

Turks battle U.S. sailors over Ataturk

ISTANBUL (R) — A U.S. sailor was nearly lynched after trampling on a statue of the revered founder of modern Turkey, sparking street battles between Turks and drunken sailors in the Port of Anatolia, police said. Police said Wednesday the sailors were from the U.S. Sixth Fleet aircraft carrier Coral Sea which docked at the Mediterranean port for a courtesy visit Monday, with 3,000 crewmen on board. "The streets of Anatolia were turned into a battlefield as the drunk American sailors insulted women," the liberal Milliyet newspaper said.

Rare baby whale shark located in Gulf

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — U.S. Marine scientists have reported the netting of a dead baby whale shark that they said was the first baby specimen found in the Indian Ocean. The baby whale shark, newly dead and measuring 62 centimetres (24.4 inches) long was caught Monday 10 kilometres off Muscat by Fahal Island in the Gulf of Oman. "This is a very exciting find for fisheries science. Baby whale sharks are very rare," said marine biologist Jonathan Mee, one of six U.S. fishery scientists on attachment to the Oman Marine Sciences and Fisheries Centre. "Put simply, it is one of the smallest examples of the biggest fish in the world," said Mee, 28, from San Francisco, California. "Less than 10 of this size have been reported this century and there are only a handful" in museums around the world.

Eritrean rebels say Egypt to promote peace

NAIROBI (R) — Rebels in northern Ethiopia said Wednesday that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had promised to use his influence to ensure the success of their forthcoming peace talks with the Ethiopian government. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) said Mubarak, chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, gave this pledge at a meeting with EPLF leader Isayas Afewerki in Cairo last Saturday. The EPLF is due to begin unconditional peace talks with the Ethiopian government in Atlanta, Georgia, on Sept. 7 in the presence of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who will act as an independent observer.

Somalia to hold multi-party elections

MOGADISHU (R) — The Somali government said Wednesday it had approved creation of a multi-party system and would hold fresh parliamentary elections by the end of 1990. The war-torn East African country has been a one-party state since President Mohammad Siad Barre seized power 20 years ago. The official Somali News Agency (Soma) said the central committee of the ruling Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party (SSRP) approved the creation of a multi-party system Tuesday night and the government would soon legalise opposition parties. Somalia has been racked by civil war since rebels of the Somali National Movement (SNM) launched a major offensive in the north of the country last year.

Libya sends envoy to Gulf Arab states

BAHRAYN (R) — Libya has sent an envoy to Gulf Arab states ahead of its celebrations on Sept. 1 marking the 20th anniversary of the revolutionary which overthrew the Libyan monarchy. The Gulf News Agency said Mustafa Karoubi, a member of the Revolutionary Council, delivered a message to the Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Ibn Sulman Al Khalifa, from Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. It gave no details but said Karoubi arrived in Bahrain from Kuwait Tuesday. He later left for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on a similar mission.

Iran's 'hanging Judge' off to Libya

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's "hanging judge" left Tehran for Libya Wednesday to attend celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the Libyan revolution. The Iranian News Agency IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said Hojatoleslam Sadeq Khalkhali was carrying a message from Iran's President Rafsanjani for Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi. Khalkhali, a religious judge, got his nickname from the Western media by sentencing thousands of people to death during the early days of the Iranian revolution. He caused revulsion in the West when he was seen on television gloating over and prodding the bodies of Americans killed in an abortive mission to rescue U.S. embassy hostages from Tehran.

FOR FRIDAY

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Arabic World Records

News in English

Arabic programme

Arabic news

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES MALAYSIA: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable of good wishes to the King of Malaysia on his country's Independence Day anniversary. In his cable, the King wished the Malaysian monarch continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Malaysian people. (Petra)

BUSINESSMEN VISIT JORDANIAN PAVILLION: The Jordanian pavilion at the Damascus International Fair was visited by huge numbers of people from Syria and the Arab World on the first day of the fair. Mr. Mohammad Riad, the pavilion's director, said that businessmen visiting the pavilion inspected the various items and were briefed on their production in Jordan. (Petra)

NMI GETS JD 100,000 LOAN: The Cabinet Wednesday announced a loan of JD 100,000 to the National Medical Institution (NMI). It said that the loan will finance the repair and maintenance programme at the Al Basit Hospital in Amman. (Petra)

42 TRAINEES GRADUATE FROM VTC: A batch of 42 trainees graduated Wednesday from a Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Aqaba. The trainees had had courses in electricity, refrigeration and other trades at the centre run by the VTC. (Petra)

PARLIAMENTARY TIES WITH IRAQ: A review of Jordanian-Iraqi parliamentary relations was made Wednesday between parliamentarians from both countries. Visiting deputy speaker of the Iraqi assembly, Ghaneam Azizi, discussed these relations with Mr. Bahjat Talhouni, deputy speaker of the Upper House of Parliament. Azizi delivered a message to Talhouni from the Iraqi National Assembly speaker. (Petra)

KHAMMASH MEETS IRAQI ENVOY: Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Hikmat Al Khammash had a meeting here Wednesday with the new Iraqi ambassador to Jordan, Nouri Ismail. Khammash informed the ambassador of Jordan's keenness to promote cooperation in transport affairs. The meeting follows Tuesday's meeting between an Iraqi transport delegation and Khammash on organising land transport operations between Jordan and Iraq. (Petra)

RAMTHA PROJECTS: The Ramtha Municipality, in the north of Jordan, has embarked on a number of municipal and services projects. A municipality official said that these mainly include roads and the construction of islands in the Ramtha-Damascus-Road. (Petra)

JORDAN TO ATTEND CUSTOMS MEETING: The Customs Department in Amman announced that it is taking part in an Arab meeting on customs to be held early next month in Morocco. Discussions at the meeting will cover means of promoting inter-Arab cooperation in customs. (Petra)

SOVIET FILM WEEK: A Soviet Film Week was opened Tuesday at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman by Ministry of Culture and Information's Secretary General. The event, which comes in implementation of a cultural agreement between Jordan and the Soviet Union, entails a display of films featuring life in the Soviet Union. (Petra)

MINISTERS RECEIVE QATARI ENVOY: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'deh Wednesday discussed with the Qatari ambassador to Jordan scopes of mutual cooperation. In a separate audience, Justice Minister Raif Al Wazani also discussed with the Qatari ambassador means to bolster Jordanian-Qatari relations. (Petra)

PROJECTS AT BAGAA CAMP: The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) will donate JD 60,000 to help cover the cost of public services projects at the Palestine refugee camp of Bagaa. The services include health and public works schemes. (Petra)

ABDABADI NOMINATED AS BANK BOARD MEMBER: The Orphans Fund board of directors held a meeting Wednesday and decided to nominate Director General Dr. Abdul Salam Abadi as the fund's representative of the National Islamic Bank board of directors since the fund's contributions to the bank's capital is 14.5 per cent. The conferees also discussed investment of funds and investment policies. (Petra)

Lebanese ambassador appeals to compatriots

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lebanon's ambassador to Jordan Butros Ziyadeh has issued an appeal to Lebanese nationals living in Jordan to extend humanitarian assistance to their own compatriots.

Ziyadeh said the nearly 10,000 Lebanese citizens living in Jordan should provide whatever assistance they can to relieve the sufferings of the Lebanese people.

The call from the ambassador coincided with a call by the Jordanian Bar Association on Arab heads of state and the Arab League to exert pressure on the concerned parties to stop the fighting in Lebanon.

Rawabdeh to meet with mayors of ACC capitals

AMMAN (Petra) — The Mayor of Baghdad Khaled Abu Muneac Rashid is due here Thursday at the head of a delegation at the invitation of Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh.

Also arriving Thursday are delegations representing the municipalities of Sana'a, in North Yemen, and Cairo on visits lasting several days.

The delegations are to hold talks with Rawabdeh and the Greater Amman Municipal Council members on means of promoting cooperation among the four countries which form the ACC countries.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Khader Ghawamneh and Abdulla Kansaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Masri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist 'Adnan Al Hilo at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILMS

★ A Soviet film week which includes films depicting life in the Soviet Union, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ A feature film entitled "Boeing 747" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Cabinet endorses penalties for violators of supply law

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Supply's bid to crack down on profiteers and price manipulators in the local market won official backing from the government when the cabinet endorsed its endorsement of strict penalties on all violators of the supply regulations.

A statement said that an amendment has been introduced ensuring the imposition of strict control over the sale of foodstuffs and warning of strict penalties against violators of the law.

Several merchants and businessmen have lately been referred to the military court for trial after being found to have violated regulations.

Large amounts of foodstuffs including milk and cooking oil were taken out of warehouses belonging to these merchants, who had been trying to raise prices illegally.

The Ministry of Interior has been entrusted by the prime minister to impose strict penalties on the violators.

The Cabinet also approved minutes of a joint Jordanian-Soviet Economic Committee meeting that met in Moscow on Aug. 8.

The minutes provide for a Jordanian industrial and agricultural fair to be held in Moscow in the first half of 1990 to promote the sale of Jordanian products in the Soviet Union.

and adjust the balance of trade which is now heavily in the favour of the Soviet Union.

The fair will be allowed to sell up to \$5 million to Soviet companies, in accordance with an agreement signed by the two sides during the committee's meeting in Moscow.

The two sides also agreed to trade goods worth \$50 million annually and decided to exchange visits by trade officials to pave the way for an increase in the volume of traded products.

The Cabinet also approved of an executive programme for the implementation of a Jordan-North Yemeni agreement in cultural, and educational fields for 1989, 1990 and 1991.

Jordan begins recruiting volunteers for U.N. programme

By Nur Safi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan has taken the first organised step towards sending Jordanians on international voluntary work with the signing of an agreement between the government and the United Nations Volunteer Programme (UNV) earlier this month.

In addition to undertaking to assign some of its experts in various fields to be sent to countries which stand in need of the expertise they can offer, the Kingdom is also seeking foreign volunteers to help its own development projects assisted by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and International Labour Organisation (ILO).

According to Yousef Abu Dayyeh of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), one of the Jordanian coordinators for the programme, applications have already started coming from Jordanian youth willing to offer their services on a voluntary basis. Abu Dayyeh said there were offers from experts in the fields such as manpower management, secretarial, tourism, hotel management, catering, engineering as well as consultants and experts for the handicapped.

The selected candidates will be sent to South and North Yemen and Iraq, he said. The agreement between Jordan and the UNV may also play a role in bringing specialists for WHO and ILO in the Kingdom. "There is a positive view towards making use of Jordan as a regional base for

parts of the world, from Latin America to Fiji Islands. For some of them, the work is their life's mission, while for others it is a means of being of service to those in need.

In Jordan, the CSC will be the focal point for all issues dealing with the programme as well as recruitment of volunteers.

Khalid Jumini, an official attached to the U.N. offices in Amman explained that the process involves receiving details of requirements from the U.N., advertising in the local press, receiving applications and interviewing and selecting applicants based on the nature of the requirements.

"Once the process is completed, the details are sent to the UNV headquarters in Geneva for study and approval, Mr. Khalid Jumini, one of the correspondents from the UNV, explained.

Established in 1971, the UNV aims at contributing to the development of developing as well as developed countries through offering voluntary services of experts.

The programme does not mean "employment" in the strict sense of the word, but for the service in itself, since the applicants give a period of their lives to the service of others and simultaneously gain experience and a broad outlook on different cultures and environments.

The Geneva-based United Nations volunteer agency now boasts of over 1,500 specialists in various fields working in many

67 adult education centres opened in Greater Amman area

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Department of Education in the Greater Amman area announced Wednesday the opening of 67 adult and literacy education centres in the capital, and invited interested people to benefit from them as soon as possible.

A statement by the department's director said that the centres are being operated at 13 local schools and that lessons will be

given in the evening.

Saturday will be the first day for these classes in the new 1989-1990 school year, the department director said.

Last March, the Ministry of Education put the rate of illiteracy in Jordan at 15 per cent of the total population, and predicted that the rate will be reduced to 10 per cent by the end of this century.

The Ministry of Education said in March that more than 10,000 persons including 8,900 females attended the 1988-1989 literacy and adult education classes.

ACC federations of chambers of industry establish higher council

ALEXANDRIA (Petra, J.T.) — Representatives of chambers of industry from Jordan and the other three states in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) established in Baghdad last February.

The delegations and the Amman Municipality are expected to sign a charter, paving the way for the establishment of a higher council for federations of chambers of industry in the four states.

He said that the council was an essential move towards enabling the four states to integrate through streamlining their economic policies and creating a common market.

However, Abu Hassan mentioned nothing of a projected \$10 million holding company which was to have been discussed during the three-day Alexandria meeting.

The projected company would serve as an umbrella for the council's projects, according to Abu Hassan who had said the Jordanian delegation submitted a working paper to the meeting proposing a number of measures to ensure integration among the four countries in industry related fields.

RSS announces new achievements

AMMAN — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) researchers have recently succeeded in converting calcium sulphate (phosphogypsum) (PGS) into potassium sulphate under normal conditions with a converting factor of 96 per cent.

In the manufacturing process of phosphoric acid from phosphate rocks, calcium sulphate is separated as a by-product known as phosphogypsum (PGS).

The product, which is considered a waste material, represents an increasing environmental pollutant (especially for marine life in the Red Sea) as in the case of Jordan.

During the conversion process, organic solvents in aqueous ammonia solution were used in

the presence of potassium chloride.

The most important feature of this method is that the organic solvent and ammonia used in the conversion process can be recovered and reused while reactants are locally available.

The potassium sulphate is a fertiliser used in several species of fruits and vegetables and can be very useful in salty soil.

The PGS, on the other hand, is a cheap and suitable source for sulphur and sulphate ores which are not available in Jordan.

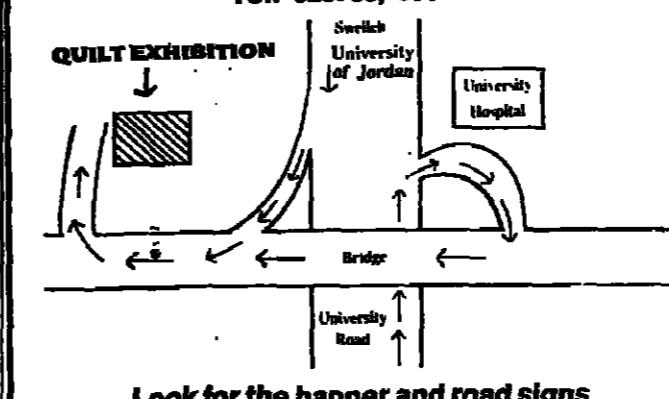
The project, which was financed by the Higher Council for Science and Technology, was carried out by Dr. Omar Jibawi, Dr. Saleh Saradi, and Dr. Imad Taher — RSS News.

Jordan River Quilt Exhibit

Save the Children Jordan River Quilt Exhibition has been extended through Friday 1st of September.

Open daily from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Villa opposite University Hospital
Tel: 628760, 656872



سراويل ملابس ملابس ملابس ملابس



ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammar Wednesday opens a meeting of ACC auditors and certified accountants societies in Amman (Petra photo)

Auditors, certified accountants begin talks in Amman

Nammar urges auditors to contribute to ACC development process

AMMAN (Petra) — Auditors and certified accountants societies in the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries opened a two-day meeting here Wednesday and heard calls for serious efforts to be made to overcome economic problems facing the four countries.

Dr. Hilmi Nammar, the ACC secretary general, told the opening session that Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq possess huge manpower and economic potential which could be employed for the prosperity of their people through the help of economists and good administrators.

"Auditors and certified accountants ought to contribute to the process of socio-economic development and progress in the four countries," Nammar told the delegates of the first meeting of its kind in the ACC states.

The meeting has been called to launch coordination and cooperation among the auditors societies.

The ACC countries and to discuss means of helping in the efforts towards the ACC's full economic integration, according to officials at the Amman-based ACC headquarters.

Nammar reviewed the role which the auditors societies can play. He said they "carry a real weight in the economy, and can therefore play a meaningful role in integration."

Such questions as relations between auditing offices in the Arab World and foreign countries and unifying auditing systems in the ACC states are on the agenda.

ACC officials said they said that several working papers will be reviewed, covering

a whole range of issues pertaining to auditing, Arab and foreign accountancy firms' operations and cooperation between private and public auditing offices in the four countries.

Wahib Al Shaer, chairman of the Jordanian Auditors Society, delivered a speech at the opening session in which he outlined the far-reaching goals of the ACC and underlined the auditors' responsibilities towards achieving them.

Bustan Al Janabi, secretary general of the Arab Auditors Federation, called in a speech for further cooperation among the auditors in the four countries, and thanked Jordan for hosting the conference.

Taking part in the conference are representatives of auditors offices and accountants societies in the ACC countries as well as observers from other countries.

Senior officials and representatives of private companies in Jordan were also present at the opening session.

Qatanani leaves for Vienna to attend UNRWA advisory group meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior Foreign Ministry official left Amman Wednesday for Vienna to take part in an annual meeting by an advisory commission for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) which will open Thursday.

Ahmad Qatanani, director of the ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department, said that the meeting will review a report by the agency's commissioner general which covers UNRWA's financial

position and services offered to Palestinian refugees in the agency's fields of operations.

The commission, which includes representatives of 16 nations could also discuss the agency's current plans and outstanding disputes with UNRWA staff, UNRWA officials said here Wednesday.

UNRWA employees in Jordan recently staged a one-day strike to back demands for better pay, and sought help from Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, who was on a visit to Jordan, at the time, to help settle the dispute with the agency.

UNRWA employees said Wednesday, meetings were being held by the employees committee

Charity train ride to be held on Sept. 21

WANTED

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER The U.S. Agency for International Development has a vacancy in its Office of Private Enterprise and Project Development for a Project Officer to design, implement and monitor selected projects in its portfolio. The office has direct management responsibility for implementation of the private sector project portfolio, human resources development, urban development programs and technical assistance and feasibility studies.

In executing the duties, the incumbent will interact regularly with top level government and business leaders. Applicants should be American or Jordanian citizens, preferably with an advanced degree, and should have strong English writing and speaking skills and experience in program management. Applicants should submit their CVs and sample of their English writing no later than September 14, 1989 to:

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

A thorn in Israel's throat

FOUR DECADES ago, then Israeli Premier Golda Meir denied any knowledge of anything called Palestine or any people known as Palestinians. Since then, there has been a frenzied Israeli effort to obliterate the words through every means available, including a blend of feigned ignorance with devilish political and military manoeuvres to bury for good the reality that the "empty land" was inhabited by a people other than the Jews.

Today, the Israeli mentality remains the same if not bullish and defiant, at least on the political level after years of implementation of the multi-faced tactics which capitalised on the element of time. The hard-core Zionists were never awaiting the Arab recognition of the State of Israel nor the victory of a negotiated peace settlement, but the victory of erasing "Palestine" from the maps and minds and feelings of all humans. But, as time betrayed the "chosen people of God" after he foresaw them long ago, Israelis are now launching an all-out no-holds-barred malicious campaign to achieve their goals.

On the one hand, Israeli officials are throwing around "peace ideas" and conditions while on the other their actions speak volumes about their hatred towards the Palestinian body and blood. The very fact that no Israeli soldier would "stoop as low as" to take off a banned Palestinian flag from a pole but will insist on rounding up a Palestinian boy to do the job under torture as if to rub salt in the wound is simply the strongest pointer to the Zionist epiphany over anything that symbolises Palestine. Breaking bones, demolishing homes, indiscriminate killings and torturing children serve only to entrench Palestine in the wounds and graves.

These are the emotions of the Palestinian people today. They do not know what awaits them tomorrow, but they do know that they are not going to let the Israeli dream materialise. Any analysis of the intifada or any effort to seek the logic behind the determination of unarmed people fighting a mighty military machine would never be complete unless seen in light of these emotions.

Palestine has always been a prickly thorn on Golda Meir's side. It has now grown to choke the throat of today's Israeli leaders. That is the victory of the Arabs and they should celebrate that the Israelis are seeing their sun setting as the Palestinian sun is rising through the intifada.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Wednesday dealt in editorial with Israel's acts of terrorism which has spread to Latin America, in the light of the discovery of Israeli agents training Colombian drug traffickers and other terrorists in the use of arms. The paper said that it is not surprising to hear such reports about Israel which has been established on aggression and terrorism, and which practises all forms of atrocities in Palestine, the Arab countries and abroad. Latin America, Africa and Asia as well as Europe have witnessed terrorist activity in which Israel and its agents were always found to be their perpetrators, because Israel has adopted a policy of creating dissension and disturbances not only in the Middle East but also throughout the world at large, the paper added. It said that the latest scandal in Colombia revealed that the Israeli agents were helping drug traffickers and assassins and outlaws to peddle their poisonous merchandise in the United States. This is totally inhuman, outrageous and criminal, and calls for speedy action on the part of the international community, the paper noted. It said that the Jewish state has once again proved that it is a racist state full of hatred against and determined to be hostile and aggressive in all matters related to other countries of the world.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily refers in his column Wednesday to an announcement by a local industrial engineering company about its intention to implement a \$2.5 billion project near the southern tip of the Dead Sea to exploit the sea's minerals. Faded Al Fakher who quoted the project director Omar Abdullah Dakhqan for the announcement said the cost is formidable for Jordan despite the initial assessment that it would yield a \$750 million annually; and therefore the whole idea should be 100 per cent feasible before steps can be taken to carry it out. The writer reminds his readers of other companies in Jordan which went bankrupt simply because there was no secure feasibility study advising their creation. He says that any failure that could result from the projected plant near the Dead Sea would be fatal for a country like Jordan with meagre economic resources. Since preparations for the project, according to Dakhqan, will take at least three years; and seven more years are needed for its implementation, then, the writer says, those responsible should take time in their assessments and be aware of the all consequences in advance. The writer urges all concerned parties to carefully study the situation and the feasibility study itself before embarking on the next moves.

Al Dustour daily bemoans the lack of concerted Arab efforts to find a just solution for the Lebanese problem. The paper noted that as soon as the Arab League mediation committee announced its failure to break the deadlock over Lebanon, the Arab countries stopped all moves to help find a solution. The recent contacts with the foreign nations involved in the problem and the Lebanese parties themselves proved that every one is concerned to see an end to the bloodshed, the paper noted. It said that there can be no alternative to Arab League's intervention in Lebanon except foreign intervention, and a very gloomy future for Lebanon and the Arab region.

Protocols of Zion in action?

By P.V. Vivekanand

FOR ALL technical purposes, reports that Israelis are heavily involved in training death squads for drug cartels in Latin America raise a paradox when considering that their country's guardian, the United States, is waging an all-out war against drug trafficking. But is it really a paradox?

In the wake of recent findings that Israeli mercenaries trained assassins for Colombian drug barons, the government of the Zionist state has been trying to squirm out of the fallout. It has announced investigations into the affair and threatened to revoke the passports of those found guilty of such involvement. But, no matter what it says and does, the conviction remains strong among many that the Israeli political leadership was keeping very convenient blind eyes and deaf ears to what it saw as a clandestine conduit, "private" or otherwise, with Latin America as well as many Asian and African countries. If anything, there are also indications that the government itself was directly involved in propping up many right-wing dictatorships in Latin America after stepping in wherever the United States left a vacuum.

It is no secret that Israel, ranked ninth largest arms supplier in the world, has found a very lucrative market for its weapons in Latin America, thanks to boycotts and curbs imposed by successive American administrations on arms sales to some of the countries in the region. The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) says that Israeli sales to at least half a dozen Latin American countries range from fighter planes and missiles to assault rifles. A Swedish institute puts the number of countries involved at 18. Needless to say, in many cases, the equipment included American-supplied technology used by Israel. Compare that with the hue and cry that Washington raised when an Arab state, Qatar, was found to be in possession of American Stinger missiles, mind you, not for purposes of duplicating the technology but more as a defence need.

From all accounts, what has been happening in the last 20 years is that Israel just happened to be there, more conveniently, when the U.S. adopted tough stands against some of the autocratic regimes in Latin America. Obviously, the Israelis could not care less if the procurers of their arms and expertise were in the good books of Washington or not. Some analysts even go to the extent of seeing tacit American approval of such Israeli links while Washington was trumpeting its vehement opposition to non-democracies in its backyard.

However, there appears to be little doubt that U.S. intelligence services were more than aware of what was going on but kept it to themselves. The most glaring evidence came last year when a

U.S. Senate committee heard that aircraft owned by Colombia's infamous Medellin cartel but operated by Israelis used to ferry arms for the American-backed rebels in Nicaragua before flying on to Colombia and Panama to pick up cocaine to be dropped in the United States. The arms, of course, were American contribution to efforts to topple the left-wing Sandinista government in Nicaragua; it will be naive, to say the least, to assume that the brains behind the arms supply links were unaware of the intricacies of the complex network.

In the latest affair Israeli mercenaries were reported to have offered their expertise to Colombia's druglords, who were effectively running a state of their own. A retired Israeli army officer, Yair Klein, is the prime "suspect." He is back in Israel, having been successfully spirited out of Colombia in April when the Bogota authorities issued a warrant for his arrest along with several other compatriots. Klein has admitted to being "questioned" by the Israeli defence ministry, but maintains that he was only training Colombian "farmers" to defend themselves against left-wing guerrillas. It does not take much imagination what the "farmers" were "cultivating."

In any event, the trial speaks for itself. The systematic bombing campaigns in Bogota and Medellin after the drug barons declared a "war against the state" for its crackdown on them definitely points to an expertise which, no doubt, was supplied by Israelis. Other reports speak of direct "contracts" undertaken by Israeli citizens on leading opponents of drug trafficking in Latin America. It will not be imagination running wild to see an Israeli finger firing the gun that killed the leading presidential candidate in Colombia earlier this month, thus also triggering the battle that Bogota is today waging against the drug cartels.

Israeli mercenary activities are in no way limited to Latin America. They are evident in several African and Asian countries. An Israeli pattern is clearly visible in the series of killings of Sinhalese extremists in Sri Lanka by forces described as government-run militias carrying out the "dirty job in the dirty way" that the regular army cannot undertake. Activists and supporters of the extremist People's Liberation Front (JVP) are killed in some of the most horrendous manner and their corpses are left to rot in the open for days in a blood-culling effort to deter others from joining the front's anti-government activities. In the north of the country, where Tamils are waging a separatist campaign, the field is left open for Indian peacekeepers, perhaps because the Israeli presence will be much too obvious.

The Israeli link in Sri Lanka came to the fore in 1985 when at

least 50 Israeli agents, mostly Mossad operatives, were officially assigned to Sri Lanka to train the country's soldiers "in guerrilla warfare." The trainers were reported to have left the island after the Arab states warned Colombo of potential damage to bilateral relations. But, not all of the Israelis left, according to recent reports in the Asian press.

In Africa, the most vivid sign of clandestine destabilisation efforts exerted by Israel came when the Sudanese government offered evidence that the Zionist state was supplying arms to the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in the south through Kenya.

Mercenary activities of Israelis are not a new phenomenon. It would appear that the very nature of the Zionist state, which is on a perpetual alert against sabotage and attacks carried out by liberation seeking Palestinians, coupled with the years of extremism practised by underground Jewish gangs in pre-1948 Palestine, seems to have eliminated all qualms among Israelis, official and otherwise. The parameters that most countries would apply when dealing with subversion in another country appear to have very little consideration in the Jewish state.

The question is: What is the international community doing about it?

For all diplomatic purposes, Israel can very well argue that its government does not condone any mercenary activities anywhere in the world and adopts a very tough attitude when dealing with its "private citizens" engaged in such actions. And when the issue reaches sensitive levels, it resorts to bilateral contacts with the country concerned to smooth things over.

(Incidentally, I, for one, did not hear about the conclusion of the case involving two Israeli agents who, in 1985, were caught trying to smuggle a former Nigerian minister out of Britain to his country to face alleged charges of corruption. The ex-minister was drugged and trussed up, with an Israeli keeping him company, inside a crate destined for Lagos and marked "diplomatic cargo" authorised by the Nigerian embassy in London).

The obvious argument that Israel puts forth on the surface is simple: the government cannot be held responsible for actions undertaken by its citizens. But how does it explain the fact that Israel ranks among the top five countries extending "security and defence" consultancy services around the world with over 800 organisations, which, somewhat or the other, operate with apparent immunity? We have yet to hear of a case where any Israeli caught engaged in subversion abroad was brought to book in Israel.

Anniversary stirs memories of war's start

By John Barbour
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Old Marshall Ferdinand Foch, who led the allies to victory in World War I, said at the end of that conflict: "This is not peace. It is an armistice for 20 years." He was right, almost to the day.

Nearly two decades later, after years of threat and bluster, of depression and inequality, of fears and lies, conflict finally came to action on Sept. 1, 1939, when the first shots were fired in World War II.

No one could say the world did not have sufficient notice.

For instance, on the last day of January 1939 at the White House, President Franklin D. Roosevelt had called in the Senate military affairs committee to confide his fearful appraisal of the world — many of his countrymen suffered from a bad case of isolationism. Yet he told the senators:

"About three years ago we got pretty definite information that there was in the making a policy of world domination between Germany, Italy and Japan... There are two ways of looking at it. The first... is the hope that somebody will assassinate Hitler from within; that somebody will kill Mussolini or he will get a bad cold in the morning and die... the other attitude is that we must try to prevent the domination of the world."

He had drawn the line. Adolf Hitler, whom he called a "wild man" and "a nut," was the enemy, whether the nation knew it or not. Peace was slipping through the trembling fingers of Europe.

Hitler had had a timetable since he powered his way to control of the German government in the country's last free elections on March 5, 1933, a day after Roosevelt was inaugurated as U.S. president.

Hitler had taken a broken Germany, re-armed it in secret, bifurcated his way into the Rhineland which Germany had given up after World War I. He butressed fascist dictator Francisco Franco in Spain and conspired with Italian dictator Benito Mussolini to di-

vide Europe. He bullied his way into Austria and Czechoslovakia and so intimidated Britain and France that they welcomed the Munich pact which British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain considered a guarantee of "peace in our time." It only convinced Hitler that the old World War I allies were willing to pay for peace at any price.

Hitler needed Poland not only for a breadbasket but as a source of labour. He would have Poland even if it drew Britain and France into war. He was not, however, ready to fight a war on fronts.

So he sought Joseph Stalin's assistance in the east, one of the most bizarre alliances in modern history — the Communist and the fascist, philosophy to be damned.

The allies had procrastinated over a pact with Stalin to outflank Hitler. They obviously did not savour doing business with the Soviet leader.

Hitler had no such compunctions.

On Aug. 20, 1939, he agreed to a Soviet-drafted non-aggression pact. In return, the Soviets would get a free hand in an expanded war cabinet and first lord of the Admiralty, where he had served previously. Before he got there, the word went out to the fleet: "Winston is back."

On Aug. 31, the Polish ambassador's flies from Berlin to Warsaw were cut. That night Hitler broadcast to his people peace proposals to Poland which the Poles never heard, his usual ploy for preparing the German mind for war.

Finally he launched operation Case Green, planned months before. SS troops in Polish uniforms staged a mock attack on a German radio station at Gleiwitz on the Polish border, leaving a drugged concentration camp inmate, smeared with blood, as a German "casualty" of the attack. There were other such "provocations" along the border.

Berlin was calmly asleep, but all communications to the outside world were cut. Berliners would awaken to a war that would eventually destroy them and much of Europe as well.

At 5:20 a.m., Sept. 1, directly on Hitler's timetable, a German warplane attacked the Polish fishing village of Puck and an adjacent air base on the Gulf of Finland.

There were those who thought the Poles could hold out for a couple of months. Even the Germans thought in terms of weeks.

But German power had not been tested yet. It became a war of horse-drawn artillery against motorised guns that could cover bad roads at 40 miles (65 kilometres) an hour, a war of lances against tanks.

There were those who thought the territories.

Also, talks now seem possible on the future of Eritrea. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front will certainly put forward again their proposal for a referendum under international control.

The next national elections in Nicaragua will be crucial, and there have been discussions on how to organise a team of international observers.

In view of all this, one would assume that the question of how elections should be observed would be high on the international agenda. That is not the case.

At present, there is no organised, international competence in the field. No United Nations body has expertise, and neither does any nongovernmental organisation.

The U.N. Human Rights Com-

The Polish air force was destroyed in 48 hours by German bombers. Stukas punctuated the sky, dive-bombing Polish troops who quickly learned to lay low until the planes came out of their dives and fire at them as they struggled for altitude.

Cracow, Poland's second city, fell on Sept. 6. That same night, the Polish government fled the capital. Within one week, Poland's 35 divisions had been either surrounded or destroyed by the fast-moving Germans. It was all over in 17 days.

The Germans tried to hurry the Soviets into the fray and to move to pre-arranged borders as their part of the spoils — and to take some of the international blame. The allies had procrastinated over a pact with Stalin to outflank Hitler. They obviously did not savour doing business with the Soviet leader.

"Well, Bill, it's come at last," Roosevelt replied. "God help us all."

In London, mobilisation was ordered. On Sept. 3, Britain went to war. Winston Churchill, who had warned persistently of the German threat, was made a part of an expanded war cabinet and first lord of the Admiralty, where he had served previously. Before he got there, the word went out to the fleet: "Winston is back."

In Berlin, Hitler received the news of Britain's declaration with an immobile stare, but Hermann Goering, the head of the Luftwaffe, said: "If we lose this war, then God have mercy on us."

Hitler dunned a military uniform and pledged to his people he would not return to civilian clothes until the war was won, a promise he kept to his death.

The French played for time, adding a few insignificant hours to their mobilisation, before declaring war.

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Features

Focus on People

To do is to be

By Marjan M. Shahin

WOMEN'S movements all over the world have been pioneered by those who have had "that little bit of extra insight." Shah Ameri, was one of those women in Jordan, speaks about her life to Focus On People this week.

IN 1942, while many young Arab men and women were struggling to become literate, Shah Ameri was about to receive a university degree from the American University of Beirut (AUB). Ameri came from a family that cherished education and "liberation of the mind." Her older sister was one of the first female students to graduate from the AUB in 1929. "To be educated, for me as a female, was not strange, my older sisters had received education and my aunts were very active, so I thought it was perfectly normal for a girl to receive education," Ameri recalls.

Ameri's whole life from beginning to end was anything but ordinary. Born in Damascus into a politically active family, Ameri had a very close relationship with her father, who was actively involved in anti-Turkish and later anti-French politics in Syria. While not necessarily idolizing him, she "always talked to him. We talked about everything, politics, economics, literature... you name it." Ameri joined her first protest march at the age of four in Damascus. "My aunt was joining a protest march against colonial rule and she took me along. Ever since I remember we, the Arabs, have had to resist domination by outside forces."

Nostalgically Ameri remembers the time when the people of historic Greater Syria did not need passports. "Up until 1941 no one ever bothered to ask us for our passports when I went to Beirut or Jerusalem."

In 1944 Shahi married Jordanian Aideeb Ameri who was to become minister. At the time they were married Mr. Ameri was the headmaster of the major secondary school in Salt and taught an endless list of young men who would one day become prominent in Jordan's political, social and economic life.

"When I came to Jordan in 1944 it was very different from today. My husband and I lived in Salt. I was received in a very kind and generous manner by the people of the city. I made friends in no time. It was not customary for men and women to sit together in social gatherings. So when I went to a cocktail party with my husband not long after I arrived in Salt, (the invitation had come for Mr. and Mrs. — they had thought I was a foreigner), it created an uproar, an Arab woman at a cocktail party — imagine!"

Today such an event may seem mild, but at the time, Ameri set a precedent, for no other Arab and Muslim woman had ever attended such social gatherings with men. "The fact that I had studied at foreign schools and been brought up to believe that religion is an attitude as well as deeds undoubtedly effected my behaviour," Ameri says.

Ameri, unlike most women in the Arab and Islamic worlds, has taken her 'nom de guerre' after her oldest child, not after her oldest son. She is known to family, friends and co-workers as Um Arwa. She says that "in Syria, where I grew up this is not as uncommon as it is in the rest of the Arab World."

Very much in line with her upbringing and the life she led with her late husband, whom she describes as "understanding, respectful and totally open-minded to the concept of equality between men and women," Ameri wanted to work.

In the early 1950's her chance came. The Ameris moved to Jerusalem and Um Arwa, along with several other women began work on a journal for ladies that discussed women's issues as well as politics, social problems, economics and world affairs. Eventually Ameri became co-owner of a publishing house as well. "We had some opposition, but it was bearable," she recalls.

Several years later, upon the Ameris' return to Jordan (1954-55) Um Arwa became one of Jordan's first business women when she bought her own publishing house. "It was the third publishing house in Jordan, I called it 'Dar Tib'a El Nashar.' It was not easy at the beginning, but I felt it was vital for Jordan to have such industries as publishing, then as now." Ameri is aware that Jordan's potential market (three million) is small, but is convinced that Jordan could become a major publishing centre in the area. "We have to realize our potentials. There is a lot to be done in Jordan and with Jordan. People are talking about the economy worsening — as if it's the end of the world; as if they had not studied history and did not know that all countries suffer from economic changes at one point or another."

Men and women should become more actively involved in securing their own welfare and that of the country, according to Ameri. "Religion has not forbidden women to participate in trade, education or the choice of a career. So really there is no excuse for women not to work if they choose to."

At one point in history a mark in the Arab World had become responsible for not only his wife and children but possibly his widowed mother, unmarried sisters, cousins and an assortment of other female relatives. Today, on the whole, that is no longer the case. With such a high percentage of Jordanian females receiving higher education, a female is and can be held responsible for providing for herself financially and if need be helping her parents or husband to make ends meet. Along with equal rights and "liberation" comes responsibility.

Although in many ways Ameri feels that young Jordanian women have become "too liberated too quickly," many of "the changes in our society, although many think otherwise — have been for the better," she says.

When Ameri first arrived in Jordan, some 45 years ago, women in Jordan "had very definite ideas about Arab nationalism, education and culture. Although most had very little formal education, there was awareness and pride as well as determination. Those of course are some of the factors that made the relatively quick spread of education possible in Jordan."

In the 1950's 1200 women participated in a protest march that began on Salt street and ended on the Second Circle in Jabal Amman in support of human rights, women's rights and the rights of the Palestinian people. Ameri was among the leaders of the march, which some say was the biggest protest march in the history of Jordan. "Women were assertive, they had a very defined idea of where their priorities were and they were willing to fight for them."

"We have come a long way since then. I still run my publishing house and now there are many other women involved in the business world and they are doing very well. Five years ago a law requiring equal pay for equal work was passed in Jordan which is significant. We have had two women ministers. Now that the elections are coming up women will once again be given a chance to prove their capabilities. But we must be careful not to elect a woman simply because she is a woman but because she is more qualified than the other candidates, lest we undermine ourselves."

As the Jordanian woman marches on in her quest to accomplish her goals, Shah Ameri will — "keep on working in my publishing house until my last day comes."

"The Barraq (flying horse) of deliverance"

By Nelly Lanza
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Born in 1953, Adnan El Helou was subjected to a burdensome disease that left his limbs atrophied and his frail body in a wheelchair. He had to leave school when he was in the first secondary class, and that, more than his physical state, hurt him most. So he decided to make it on his own, to read, to study and to exteriorize or express his frustrations by painting. The paintbrush slowly became the extension of his hand, the extension of his very soul. He expressed it this way: "Life without art is like a bloom in eternal autumn". One is often astounded at the minute work he does in pen and ink, considering the fact that he handles the pen with difficulty. Yet this is not the only way one can admire him. I found that the truthfulness of his expression, the down-to-earth way he represents his needs as man, as a son, as a citizen, is commendable!

In his paintings there is deep psychology; he expresses the pain, the constrictions he is submitted to, whether physical, ethical or national. He also expresses in the most fluid of ways his aspiration to freedom. That is why you find in his work a constant battle between life and death, between passion and ethics, between past history (culture) and modernism (mediocritity). A dominant theme in his works is the strife to regain the homeland. The female figure ac-

quires a dominant role as well. Women appear as protectors, the providers as well as the temptresses; her volumes fill large areas of his canvases, bearing intense, often raw colour, expressive or strong if not violent passion for and against her. He also exhibits a sense for the morose. This contrast of mood sometimes appears in the same painting: the subject appears in intense oranges and reds and as one's eyes move back into the canvas, pastel shades of blue and pink, appear in cloud-like fugues that seem to revert to the world of dreams and hopes.

"Dates under the skin" shows the upper part of a female dress, torn pieces let images show through, images of confinement: Hands holding onto bars, Mosques and churches with a chain dangling above them, a rocket or bomb in front of a fire, with large droplets of milk dripping from the female breast as if to succour the situation and put out the fire. In "The Stones Give Light"

woman again saves the day. Stones seem to convey energy to the bulb. A woman on the side painted with the same intensity of colour, has her hair undulating freely above catching golden tinges from its light, while her shawl undermines the whole composition and embraces it. It is from this violently emotive figure that white figures of martyrs, set in various positions, emanate.

Over his finished subject, Adnan almost incessantly paints a transparent sheath like the one

found around the embryo, with net-like structure that affects the mood according to its subtlety or harshness. When painted softly, it could be charmingly decorative or slightly surreal. If painted harshly with intense or dark colour, it could give a rough, cracked and taurine feeling to serve the general expression. Even his work on anatomy varies according to mood. Sometimes his aim is expression, as in the case of a peasant woman carrying a washtub (Tusht) full of stones on her head, the emphasis is on the stones and the female features are subordinate and therefore only roughly painted, while in his pen and ink drawing "Stolen Liberty" his literal depiction of feet cuffed with chains show a good mastery of volume, perspective and line. In both cases, his net-like squiggles almost serve as fingerprints, representing a personal style, all his own.

Studying art

Adnan spends most of his time reading and studying the masters of philosophy and art. His career as an artist started at an early age when, very impressed by the hand-painted movie posters, he inspected them closely and tried to imitate them. He then started studying the Impressionists, the Renaissance masters Michelangelo and Raphael, he went on to Surrealism which plays an important role in his paintings, and finally Cubism. His biggest conflict is to balance the scale be-

tween form and content in his paintings what with his being so emotional, so full of ideas and so vehement to express the pre-va-

ward flow. Skulls appear intermittently and hold the flag of detriment and death. The outline of the form is uneven, contributing further to the lack of solidity of the mass. What better way to express his own battle to sit up or move!

Another morbid theme is "Oedipus is not king" where the blinded mythical figure walks in the wilderness with one foot in a sea worthy of Dante's hell. Bright hot colours (red and orange) stand against browns and blacks. The appealing woman holding on to Oedipus forms a diagonal thrust that is confined by his sash, adding strength and drama to the composition.

Adnan appreciates what modern research has done to enhance science, but not all science is good. "That part of it that creates

bombs to destroy mankind or to

leave hundreds jobless is lethal and we can do without it" he explains. He explains it further in a painting called "The crucifix of the modern", where he points building blocks oozing out in a strong perspectival thrust, in the manner of Escher, serving as a base for the crucifix (man is enslaved by modernism). The intense figure in the background tries to free itself from the confinement of the ever present net-like sheath.

Adnan's will to be free appears at its height in "The Barraq (flying horse) of deliverance" (flying horse) of deliverance" in pen and ink where the horse flies high into the sky in

a curvilinear manner sweeping with him the people and the houses while his tail takes root in the land beneath. A beautiful ode to freedom which has enabled him to achieve a good study of values (dark and light shades).

"The Octopus" is another pen and ink drawing that deals with a freedom of motion, where lines undulate and extend all over the format, creating little contrast in shading with the central perspective of a road flanked by trees, forming greater diminution as they disappear in the distance. A third pen and ink drawing "The Horseman's Cloak" returns to a profuse use of shades, creating geometric volumes and reflected shadows. All the lines seem to converge and lead your eye to the cloak that the woman is spreading over the city (Jerusalem) for protection.

"Going through the unknown" is a prizewinner! Again in pen and ink, in which a shadow-like human figure comes forward and only partly appears among a multitude of forms. Adnan ingeniously lowers the horizon line and leaves little space for the frontal plane in which he forms the figure holds forward, and its strong features, overcomes all obstacles.

Adnan is not always so optimistic, his painting "Clay movement" shows flowing, but melting figures that struggle in all directions to try to stand but the dominant movement is a down-

ward flow, step forward to catch up with the perspective below.

In an interview he was asked

"And what of life?" he answered "I did not choose life,

but I do not want to live it without making my mark!"

Study of twins raises hopes for aging brains

By Lee Siegel
The Associated Press

of their mental abilities and that when people do get senile, it's likely due to disease.

Research by Jarvik, a psychiatrist professor and chief of neuropsychiatry at the University of California, Los Angeles, may help explain why some elderly people become senile, while others remain sharp until death.

"I don't think mental decline is necessary in old age," she said. "We don't know yet how to prevent it, but we have a lot of clues," including the possibility that a healthy lifestyle — including good nutrition and exercise and avoiding drugs, alcohol, cigarettes and pollution — may help prevent or delay senility.

By giving intelligence tests to 134 pairs of elderly twins over four decades, she concluded that old age alone doesn't rob people

Jarvik's research also led her to speculate that people, through lifestyle improvements, might someday live to 120 or even 150, and that intelligence test scores might be used to identify the people who face senility and need treatment.

Dementia, the preferred medical term, is the loss of the ability to think clearly, express oneself intelligently and do complex intellectual tasks.

"Her work certainly has contributed to change in the general idea about what happens in normal aging," said psychologist Avid Aisenberg of the National Institute on Aging's Gerontology Research in Baltimore.

The once-controversial idea that old age doesn't necessarily doom people to senility now is "almost universally accepted," said Aisenberg, who studied how the elderly remember, learn, solve problems and process information.

But there still is disagreement over whether subtle loss of people's mental faculties is due to disease.

Jarvik said the elderly do tend to slow down mentally and physically, and that some memory loss may be due to aging, not disease.

But even if mental deterioration often — rather than always — results from some underlying disease, there is hope that science

can learn to help people postpone loss of their intellectual abilities.

Jarvik started her lifelong research project in 1946 when she went to work for Columbia University psychiatrist Franz Kallmann.

Kallmann had just started studying the 134 pairs of twins in their 50s and 60s to learn what environmental factors, like lifestyle, might be responsible for intellectual differences between members of each pair.

The findings "indicate we're dealing with some sort of a disease process that affects the brain," she said. Such ailments may include those that attack the brain directly, such as Alzheimer's disease, and "some process taking place elsewhere in the body that affects the blood supply to the brain."

That suggests that declining intelligence tests might be a way to detect the subtle beginnings of Alzheimer's attack on the brain or of brain impairment caused indirectly by other diseases, Jarvik said.

The twins didn't necessarily decline intellectually after 60. Indeed, as their average age rose from 64 to 73, they did better on all intelligence tests except those related to speed. Only as they reached their 80s did scores fall.

Jarvik's conclusion that disease, not age, was responsible, was based on two other major findings of the study:

Being people who are drawn to action and activity as a way of dealing with problems, a way of soothing and comforting themselves.

findings of the study:

— In every pair, the twin who first showed a decline on certain intelligence test scores also was the first to die.

— Those who initially scored low on the tests were roughly four times more likely than high-scorers to become senile 20 years later.

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Older people who believe they are losing their mental abilities might want to "check with their doctor to see if they're physically ill," she said.

Jarvik said her study also suggests that if science ever finds a way to prevent or treat Alzheimer's, intelligence tests could be administered to aging people every three to five years to identify those likely to develop dementia.

"They would be prime candidates for a preventive approach or a treatment," she said.

Personality traits linked to biological factors

By Brenda C. Coleman
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Compulsive gamblers have disturbances in their central nervous systems that may partly emerge in their personalities, particularly in their tendency to be risk takers and sensation seekers, a study says.

But experts in treating compulsive gamblers said the study cannot answer the question of whether the altered chemical activity is a cause or a result of gambling, or whether it might

characterize all hooked gamblers.

The study found that high levels of certain chemical reactions in the nervous systems of 17 compulsive gamblers were associated with high scores for "extraversion" on a written personality test.

"Extraversion" is a psychiatric term for the tendency to be outgoing, physically and socially active and to take risks, psychiatrists say.

The researchers, who reported their findings in the August issue of the American Medical Association's Archives of General

Psychiatry, said the chemicals they studied are important in the phenomenon of physical arousal.

Physical arousal, previous research suggests, may be both a major reinforcer and a maintaining factor in pathological gambling," said the study, conducted at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Researchers looked at chemicals taken from blood, urine and spinal fluid that indicated activity in the body's noradrenergic system, which governs such diverse processes as the functioning of organs and communications be-

tween nerve cells in the brain. Subjects were men who had participated as inpatients at an NIH Research Unit in Bethesda, said the authors of the study, led by Dr. Alec Roy. He could not be reached for comment Thursday, when his telephone went unanswered.

What's most important about the article is that people are beginning to realize that compulsive gambling is an illness, which is something I don't think Pete Rose is ready to admit," said Dr.

And he said the small sample of subjects did not justify general

alizations about all compulsive gamblers.

Durand F. Jacobs, a research psychologist and a board member of the National Council on Compulsive Gambling, said his own theory on addictions, based on 30 years of research, is that regardless of biological conditions, "all addicts have had a childhood when they've been subject to experiences that make them feel inferior. ... They feel inadequate, and no matter what they do it's never enough."

"Being people who are drawn to action and activity as a way of dealing with problems, a way of soothing and comforting themselves.

Breast cancer in Jordan — a question of increasing awareness

By Marian Shabot
Jordan Times Staff Writer
Breast cancer among women in Jordan is on the rise and public awareness is a key factor in reducing the number of sufferers in the next decade.

AMMAN — Gynaecological cancers (cancer of the breast or ovaries) have increasingly afflicted Jordanian women in the last decade, according to Dr. Ham Jumeau, chief of the hematology and medical oncology section at the King Hussein Medical Centre (KHMC).

"Between 1982 and 1988 the KHMC studied 350 cases of reported breast cancer, all of them Jordanian," he said.

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), breast cancer is the most common cancer affecting women worldwide. Available statistics indicate that North American and West European women have a higher rate of breast and ovarian cancer than women in developing countries.

In comparison to women in the United States, women in Jordan hardly have a problem with breast cancer. Jumeau estimates 300 Jordanian women would be diagnosed for breast cancer this year. Meanwhile, in the U.S. 142,900 American women are expected to be afflicted by breast cancer in 1989, according to the American Cancer Society.

According to the American Cancer Society statistics show that women belonging to "certain groups" have a greater tendency to develop breast cancer than others.

Cancer rates — breast and ovarian — were found to be significantly higher in Jews, Jewish women and women who have never been married. While Jewish women in the United States have a relatively high percentage of breast cancer, Jewish women in Israel have a much lower rate, 26 per 100,000 compared to 46 per 100,000.

Arab women in the occupied territories and Israel have on the other hand had 11 breast cancer cases per 100,000 women.

This could mean that food and environmental factors play a significant role in the development of cancer. A comparative study of Japanese men and women cancer patients in the United States and Japan clearly found that food, lifestyle and environment were among the factors that determined the type of cancer those patients developed. The Japanese at home have one of the highest stomach cancer rates in the world. While Japanese-Americans, or those Japanese who have lived in the U.S. for more than 20 years, have a significantly lower stomach cancer rate.

In Jordan, of the 350 cancer cases studied, 66 per cent of the women patients were found to be from the Greater Amman region, (which includes Amman and Zarqa, Salt and Madaba), while 22 per cent came from the north of Jordan and 12 per cent came from the south, according to Jumeau.

This geographic distribution of breast cancer cases corresponds to the population distribution. This indicates that the occurrence of breast cancer in Jordan is not linked to any "regional" factors.

"There are a lot of discrepancies in the statistics of the average age of women who are affected

by breast cancer. Jordanian women afflicted by the disease are younger than their American counterparts. It was estimated that 58 per cent of the women in

cent of Jordanian women report on their tumour when its less than 2 centimetres.

This is of course related to awareness among women about

possibility of breast cancer in women in the U.S. this is not the case in Jordan. A positive family link was rarely found. Only five patients out of the 350 gave a

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A 'lucky one' testifies

AMMAN — Taboos of some sort or another exist in all societies. Most of the taboos are associated with violations of certain social norms. Some may be as trivial as eating and dressing habits while others are certainly more "serious". Until recently in practically all societies around the world certain medical problems, especially those pertaining to the female sex, were off limits to discussion beyond the walls of the home and the doctor's office. Men and women often contracted "that disease," without anyone ever knowing, and died only the doctor and the closest of relatives knowing how and why. It is very possible that the stigma that the contraction of these "diseases" that often lead to death, has been carried over to open discussions about other diseases. Among these is undoubtedly cancer.

Discussions about cancer, in particular cancer that affects women such as breast cancer, uterine cancer and ovarian cancer, has been a definite taboo in discussions in most societies. The emotional anguish and fear caused by the very fact that the subject — the illness — (which — by the way can be cured by modern medicine) is a taboo subject can possibly impede the recovery of cancer patients.

According to Michele Sudartha, wife of the United States ambassador to Jordan, who recently recounted her experience with breast cancer to the Jordan Times, emotional and moral support from family, friends and the community at large is a main component of a patient's recovery process.

"Very often, cancer patients, particularly women who are afflicted with cancer of the breast or the uterus, become prisoners of fear," says Mrs. Sudartha. "The subject is taboo that the very mention of it causes anxiety, and feelings of fear and shame. The reason I want to let the Jordanian public know about my particular experience is to tear down those walls of taboos. I would like for women everywhere to be rid of the fear and the shame which has been imposed on them by being afflicted with cancer," she said.

Indeed, public awareness in Jordan should increase as the

disease is on the rise every year, as statistics show.

While cancer may take anyone from five to 10 years to develop, many people don't discover it until "it has already spread." Thus, awareness through education can be preventive medicine.

Mrs. Sudartha says she was "one of the lucky ones".

There was nothing, but "something very hard under my arm next to my breast," she recalled. "After visiting her doctor in Jordan Dr. Ham Jumeau and receiving three different opinions in France, and after having a mammograph done, she decided that she "must do what is best for her. I had asked a thousand questions. I was convinced." Surgery had to be done. I phoned a close family friend, Dr. Said Karmy, a Jordanian physician living in the U.S. and he immediately arranged everything for me. By Jan. 20, 1989, I was in Washington. On Feb. 9 surgery took place. The name of the surgery that I underwent is modified radical mastectomy. It sounds bad, but it was nothing when I compare it to the chemotherapy that I received afterwards," Mrs. Sudartha said.

Chemotherapy is the treatment of a given disease through the use of chemical agents. The chemical agents are applied to the causative organs.

"My treatment consisted of three different medicines, injected intravenously on day one and again on day eight followed by three weeks of rest.

At the end of the first month, I started losing my hair very rapidly. The treatment was hard on me, each shot was followed by hours of vomiting, intense nausea and tiredness. Vomiting I am, the fact that my hair has gone affected me as much as the "treatment itself."

Although my doctors advised that I should continue with my chemotherapy treatment, I decided to stop it there and then, all during this time I received a tremendous amount of support from all the people around me.

Especially my husband and children. During the time of my recovery I was totally dependent on others physically and emotionally. I awoke for all those poor women who may

have suffered in silence, fear and shame because they were afflicted by cancer. It is unbearable to think that a social stigma could be so tremendously unjust. I will do everything in my power to help Jordanian women fight this stigma and receive the help they so desperately need and deserve," Mrs. Sudartha said.

Mrs. Sudartha is now "a recovered cancer patient" and intends to join the Jordanian Cancer Society this fall, in its efforts to form an information and advice centre for Jordanian cancer patients or those seeking preventive advice.

According to Sudartha and the ACS there are certain unwritten rules that all women should observe; monthly practice of breast self-examination, by women above the age of 20; a mammogram every year for asymptomatic women aged 50 and above and a baseline mammogram for those 35-39. Asymptomatic women 40-49 should have a mammography every 1-2 years; in addition, a professional physical examination of the breast is recommended every three years for women 20-40, and every year for those over 40.

"Many women have a fear of X-rays and mammograms, they have to get rid of it. It may be more comfortable to avoid it in the short run but that really does nothing for your health. They have to take an initiative in being consciously concerned about their health and going to regular check-ups with their doctors. I have heard that some doctors think that patients who come for regular check-ups are paranoid, well so much for physicians who are concerned about their patients' welfare. There is no such thing as too much care in the age of cancer and more recently AIDS. Actually the stigma AIDS has received may have taken some of the stigma of cancer away. Now some people are saying "oh, it's not so bad she only has cancer."

The fear of asking questions is another area that Mrs. Sudartha believes has to be eliminated. Women must not be afraid to ask questions, hopefully the Jordanian cancer society will be helpful in answering some of these questions.

M.S.

Jordan become afflicted with cancer of the breast between the ages of 30 to 49. Forty two per cent occur above the age of 50.

"In the United States the averages are quite different. Over 60 per cent of the women afflicted by breast cancer are over 50 years of age," according to Jumeau.

This geographic distribution of breast cancer cases corresponds to the population distribution. This indicates that the occurrence of breast cancer in Jordan is not linked to any "regional" factors.

"There are a lot of discrepancies in the statistics of the average age of women who are affected

their bodies and their breasts in particular. If a basic health awareness programme were introduced in the Jordanian school system it could help in creating consciousness among Jordanian women vis-a-vis breast cancer. In the U.S. girls are taught to check themselves for tumour lumps while they are still at school. While in Jordan the vast majority of women seem totally unaware of the possible consequences of this," according to Jumeau.

While the vast majority of cancer patients in the U.S. see a doctor when the tumour size is rather small, an estimated 60 per cent of Jordanian women report to their doctors only after their tumours develop to a size of 5 centimetres or more. Only 10 per

cent of Jordanian women report on their tumour when its less than 2 centimetres.

This is of course related to awareness among women about

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World Bank has 'new features in mind'

CAIRO (R) — The World Bank plans a twin initiative next month to further ease the debt burden of the world's poorest countries and the less prosperous among middle-income nations.

"We've got new features in mind," the bank's vice president for Africa, Edward Jaycox, told Reuters in an interview.

These, he said, would be submitted to delegates attending the joint annual meeting of governors of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington from Sept. 26-28, and meetings usually held on the fringe of the gathering.

Jaycox said World Bank President Barber Conable would bring the plight of the less well-off, highly indebted middle-income countries to the attention of the World Bank's development committee.

These were countries whose commercial debt fell well short of that of major Latin American borrowers like Mexico and Brazil in the so-called middle-income group.

The Brady plan, drawn up last year by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to help big commercial debtors in the Third World, notably those in Latin America, would be of less help to their poorer cousins nominally in the same income bracket which had significantly less private debt.

Nor could these poorer cousins currently take advantage of debt relief schemes arranged for the poorest countries such as that agreed by the seven leading, non-communist, industrialised countries at their summit in Toronto in June 1988.

Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the United States and West Germany approved then a "menu" of options offering partial debt write-offs, interest rate cuts or longer repayment terms, or a mix of these.

Jaycox said the idea now was to extend the Toronto concessions to the less endowed, middle-income debtors which would include countries like Egypt, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, the Congo, Camerons and Zimbabwe in Africa, and their counterparts

World Bank estimates pointed to aid needs for the world's poorest continent rising from \$15 billion in 1990 to \$22 billion in the year 2000, he explained.

The estimates are contained in a long term study for Africa being prepared by the bank for publication next October.

The study recommends a "coalition" between African states and donors to ensure food security, along with steps to curb population growth which threatened to "swamp" development.

It also aims to reverse environmental decay and to boost regional integration and trade.

Meanwhile, African officials stepped up their campaign for an international conference on the continent's \$240 billion in foreign debts and called for hefty cuts in the sum owed.

"We need immediate measures to reduce the stock of debt," the executive secretary of the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, Adedjeji, declared.

"What is needed is (to) reduce substantially the stock of debt," he added.

He was addressing a session in Cairo of a three-day seminar on Africa's debt crisis, an unprecedented gathering of officials from African debtor nations with their creditors.

One official described the meeting, arranged by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), as a "brainstorming session."

The OAU said delegates would discuss technical and political questions raised by creditors over a four-year-old proposal for a formal international conference on Africa's debt.

OAU Secretary-General Ide Oumarou said creditors had been assured such a conference would not be used as a forum for confrontation, yet they were still hesitant to take part.

"Africa's creditors will not be left indifferent," he said, underlining the OAU's determination to keep up pressure for a conference.

Without a lasting solution to

the debt problem, he said, Africa faced the prospect of being trapped in a "vicious circle of economic servitude."

Oumarou attacked what he called an unfair economic system, including trade and other protectionist measures against Africa's exports of mainly mineral and farm products.

He and Adedjeji linked the debt crisis to a slump over the past decade in world prices for many of the commodities produced by Africa and to inadequate aid.

The debt crisis is primarily the by-product of the collapse in the commodity market. Therefore a long-term solution of the debt problem must also address squarely the commodity problem," Adedjeji said.

He suggested a five-point agenda for an international conference including proposals for cuts in the debt owed and interest rates and an agreement with creditors to limit debt service dues to 10 to 15 per cent of annual export earnings.

In 1988, debt servicing repayments swallowed up four-tenths of Africa's export income.

Adedjeji's agenda would include unspecified measures to raise commodity prices and encourage increased flows of resources and direct foreign investment.

He also said industrialised nations should drop demands for debt relief to be linked to acceptance by debtor nations of IMF and World Bank economic reforms.

Adedjeji predicted that Africa's debt was more than double to about \$55 billion over the next decade if current trends persisted — a nearly tenfold jump since the late 1970s.

He said the debt was equal to nearly nine-tenths of Africa's annual economic output last year.

One-third of this resulted not

from actual borrowing but from high interest rates and frequent reschedulings on commercial rather than the original soft terms.

"It is now clearly beyond doubt

that reschedulings are mere palliatives which aggravate the problem in the long-run," he said.

Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, Boutros Boutros Ghali, appealed for what he called a serious North-South dialogue, adding: "The time has come for world public opinion to be aware of the plight in which Africa lives."

Ismael Sabri Abdalla, a former Egyptian economic planning minister, said Africa has such a crushing debt burden that most of the money will have to be written off to put the continent back on an even keel.

"By next year... it could be difficult not only for low income countries but even for oil exporters to service their debts," he said.

He pointed out that Africa's debt — now \$240 billion — would have to be slashed by \$130 billion to cut repayments to one-fifth of export income, widely considered a manageable figure.

"Such reduction would mean a forgiveness of approximately one-third of the outstanding debt at end 1990," Abdalla told the seminar.

Morgan and Grenfell and Co. Ltd. Group Director David Suratgar, in what he said were personal views, said no rational person could expect debts of many sub-Saharan countries to be repaid.

But diplomats dealing with GATT affairs said his comments seemed aimed at tough U.S. legislation that allows Washington to retaliate with trade sanctions against states it considers unfair trading partners.

The United States last May listed Brazil, India and Japan in this category under the so-called "super 301" section of the 1988

GATT head denounces unilateral, discriminatory tilt for tat practices

GENEVA (R) — The head of the GATT world trade watchdog, in an apparent criticism of the United States, said Thursday that member states should avoid trying to settle trade disputes single-handedly.

Such unilateral action could damage ambitious global talks to free the flow of world commerce, Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), said in an introduction to the organisation's annual review.

Many of GATT's 96 member states were rightly worried by "an apparent drift towards the attempted resolution of trade difficulties through unilateral and discriminatory measures imposed outside the GATT," he said.

Dunkel did not point the finger at any of the member countries of GATT, which sets the rules for some four-fifths of world trade and seeks to settle disputed among members.

But diplomats dealing with GATT affairs said his comments seemed aimed at tough U.S. legislation that allows Washington to retaliate with trade sanctions against states it considers unfair trading partners.

Dunkel said progress at a mid-term review of the four-year bargaining between December 1988 and April 1989 had advanced the process more than expected.

As well as dealing with traditional merchandise trade, the talks aim at setting international trading patterns for the 21st century, and extend to sectors not previously covered by GATT including service industries and barriers to foreign investment.

Dunkel said the remaining 16

months of negotiations were likely to be extremely difficult. Major differences existed over such issues as long-term farm trade reform, trade in textiles and clothing, and protection of intellectual property rights — including patents, copyright and trade marks.

Referring to world commerce in general, Dunkel said: "Unresolved disputes involving the major industrial powers continue to give a public perception of a worsening international trade environment, even though, for the most part, they involve small amounts of trade."

He again gave no names, but diplomats said he was evidently referring to protracted disputes involving among others the United States, the European Community and Japan.

Dunkel said it was often forgotten in a welter of concern over these and other problems that world trade volume grew by 8.5 per cent in 1988, equaling the record for the 1980s set in 1984.

There was a relatively healthy increase of 5.5 per cent in 1987, and trade growth in 1989 could be above average.

Commentators forecasting the imminent collapse of the multilateral trading system would do well to keep recent trade growth in mind," he said.

IMF lowers global growth rates, sees less inflation peril

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) sees a slower rate of expansion ahead for the global economy but does not believe that the reduction will lead to a recession, monetary sources said.

The IMF believes the global economy will expand by 3.1 per cent this year, down from its prior estimate of 3.3 per cent.

The world financial agency also predicts that U.S. economic growth will be slower than it previously forecast. It predicts the economy will grow by 2.7 per cent this year, instead of 3.1 per cent as forecast in April.

The figures are contained in a draft report of the World Economic Outlook being prepared for next month's Washington annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank and will help set the backdrop for monetary and debt policy discussions.

At the same time, the IMF says policy-makers must keep a close eye on inflation but believes the possibility of an inflationary spiral has been reduced unless monetary authorities badly stumble.

At the same time, a missstep on

inflation could push monetary authorities to increase interest rates, making debt payments already impossible for some countries, even more punishing.

For 1990, the fund sees a 2.9 per cent rate of global growth, as opposed to its earlier 3.2 per cent estimate. The U.S. economy is expected to grow at a two per cent rate next year, down from 2.5 per cent estimated previously.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.5865/75	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1730/40	Canadian dollar
	1.9373/80	Deutschmarks
	2.1835/45	Dutch guilders
	1.6700/10	Swiss francs
	40.50/53	Belgian francs
	6.5250/5300	French francs
	1391/1392	Italian lire
	143.40/50	Japanese yen
	6.5575/5625	Swedish crowns
	7.0700/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.5325/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	361.00/361.50	U.S. dollars

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, August 30, 1989

Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	601.2	607.2
Pound Sterling	954.4	963.9
Deutschmark	310.6	313.7
Swiss franc	360.8	364.4
French franc	92.2	93.1
Japanese yen (for 100)	420.6	424.8
Dutch guilder	275.6	278.4
Swedish crown	91.7	92.6
Indian lire (for 100)	43.3	43.7
Belgian franc (for 10)	148.2	149.7

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The second has 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, a kitchen, guest & dining rooms.

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A fully furnished ground floor of a superb villa with own entrance and garden. Situated in one of the best areas of Amman.

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NB: No other occupants in the 2nd floor of the villa.

Please contact Tel. No. 685300.

"Al-Rasheed Area, near Jerusalem Hotel".

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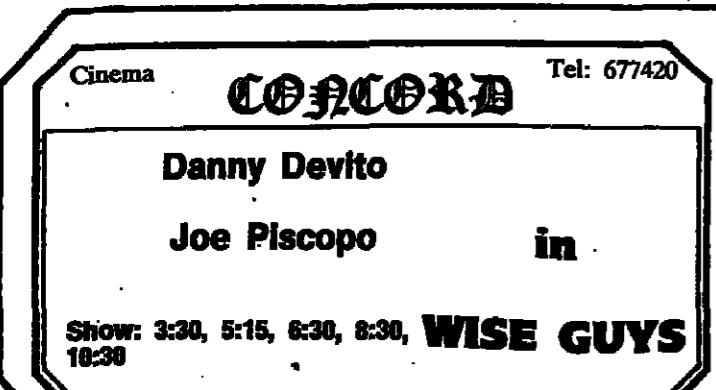
2 bedrooms, living room, veranda, garden, garage and telephone. Location: Jubeila, near the Ministry of Higher Education, Kuwait Suburb, No. 118.

Please call: 840071 (7 p.m. - 9 p.m.)

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Sports

Karpov defeats Andersson

KARLSTAD, Sweden (AP) — Anatoly Karpov, the former world chess champion, won his adjourned last round game against Sweden's Ulf Andersson in the final leg of the chess world cup Sunday and finished tied for first place with world champion Gari Kasparov.

Karpov and Kasparov, both Soviets, each scored nine and a half points out of 15.

Laszlo Portisch of Hungary, Yasser Seirawan of the United States and British grandmaster Nigel Short shared third place in the 16-man competition with eight and a half points.

Last Tuesday, Kasparov secured the \$100,000 first prize in the world cup, a Grand Prix of six tournaments featuring the leading 25 grandmasters and regarded as the second most important chess event after the world championship cycle.

But Karpov's share of first place here, in the third strongest tournament ever held, is regarded by experts as an important victory for the 38-year-old, who held the world title for 10 years before losing his crown to Kasparov in November 1985.

"I am very glad of course. I am very pleased I could get such result," Karpov said. "This is the 75th competition I've won in my life."

Karpov had adjourned his 15th round game on Saturday night with a crushing advantage over Andersson in an endgame. When play resumed Sunday morning, it

Karpov

took only eight moves before the Swede gave up.

Karpov, 26, and Karpov have each won \$17,500 for their tie in the tournament.

Karpov will receive \$75,000 for coming in second in the world cup.

The final leg of the series, staged in this northern Swedish city about 300 kilometers south of the Arctic circle, is the only scheduled meeting between Karpov and Kasparov this year.

"After this tournament, I think the long running psychological battle between the two K's stands about equal," said Leontxo Garcia, a prominent Spanish chess commentator.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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SOME PEOPLE HATE TO BE 'ROBBED'

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♦ 4
♦ J 10 3 2
♦ A Q J 9
♦ K Q 10 8

WEST
♦ A Q J 9 8 6 2 ♠ K 10 7 5 3
♦ 7 4
♦ 6 4
♦ 5 2

pose hopeless problems for the opponents.

This hand cropped up in a major pair championship some years ago. East was reasonably sure that his partner would not have any defensive tricks outside of his suit. And he knew that his partner would have at least a seven-card suit. It was thus child's play to work out that, against any contract of the opposition, his side could score only two tricks—the ace-king of hearts. Also, he knew that if his side bought the contract at spades, they could expect to score at least nine tricks—seven spades and two hearts.

He came up with a finely-judged bid—he raised his partner's preempt to five spades! Not surprisingly South, who had a good hand with a void in spades, thought that one of the opponents was trying to pick his pocket. He elected to bid six hearts, a contract that did not prove to be a great success.

Now that had South chosen to double, his side would have collected only 500 against the 650 they could have scored for collecting 11 tricks at a heart game. Thus, East-West were going to get a good result regardless of what course of action South took.

Available for a limited time as a special offer is a two-for-one package of **DOUBLES** booklets. For your copies send \$3 to "GOREN DOUBLES," care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426. Make checks payable to "Newspaperbooks."

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

Preemptive opening bids are like finely tempered sabers. Wielded properly, they can sow great havoc among the enemy, smashing lines of communication and laying waste to any attempt at a constructive auction.

To reap the most benefit from this weapon, it is essential that the partnership has strict guidelines about what constitutes an opening preempt. The one key essential is that it denies much defensive strength outside the bid suit. If you do not have such a structure, the partner of the preemptive bidder is never sure whether or not to sacrifice, lest he is taking a phantom save. But when he knows exactly what to expect from partner, he can judge the situation precisely and

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Violence, deaths, arrests mar Indian national strike

NEW DELHI (AP) — Six people were killed and more than 100,000 arrested Wednesday as police battled government and opposition supporters during a nationwide strike to demand that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi resign.

At least 34 people, including five policemen, were injured during the daylong strike, the latest attempt by opposition parties to focus attention on alleged government corruption before parliamentary elections later this year.

The strike closed shops, businesses and schools and stopped rail and transport services in the six opposition-government states.

But it evoked only a limited response in the other 19 of the 25 states governed by Gandhi's Congress Party.

United News of India (UNI) reported two people were killed during a clash involving police and pro- and anti-government supporters in the southern state

of Kerala, ruled by a Marxist Communist Party-led coalition.

UNI said four people were killed in the northeastern state of Tripura, also ruled by the Marxist Communist Party, one of the four strike sponsors. Two of the victims died when strike supporters hurled a bomb at a passenger bus, the news agency said. One person was killed in a clash between police and strike supporters, and the fourth victim was stabbed to death, it said.

Police fired into the air and threw tear gas to disperse stone-throwing mobs in the cities of Calcutta, Hyderabad, Bombay and Amritsar.

V.P. Singh, leader of the fractious opposition, said more than 100,000 opposition supporters "As a member of the opposi-

tion, I wanted the strike to be successful, but I also wanted it to be peaceful and non-violent," said Devi Lal, the chief minister of northern Haryana state and a key opposition leader.

The opposition has been trying for nearly two years to focus attention on government corruption. But previous efforts have rapidly lost momentum, largely because squabbling opposition leaders could not agree on strategy.

Last month, in a rare display of unity, 106 opposition members resigned from parliament, saying a government audit into a controversial arms deal proved kickbacks were paid to senior officials and members of Gandhi's party.

Opposition leaders contend a Swedish company, AB Bofors, paid \$50 million in kickbacks and bribes to secure a \$1.4-billion contract to supply artillery to the Indian army. The government and the company denied any wrongdoing.

Colombia flexes its extradition muscles

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — The reputed finance chief for Colombia's most powerful cocaine cartel has been served notice by local authorities that they plan to extradite him to the United States for trial, a local television station has reported.

Meanwhile, a French newspaper reported Wednesday that the reputed leader of the Medellin drug cartel had been offered a deal in which drug traffickers would call off their war against the government in exchange for amnesty and a peaceful return to society.

Police in the city of Medellin, the cartel's base, also said they foiled an attempt to fire a rocket at the distillery of a state-owned liquor company that has been the target of drug traffickers' attacks.

The government's efforts to extradite Eduardo Martinez Romero, reputed money manager for the Medellin cartel, are viewed as a test of Colombia's will to forge ahead in its battle against the drug barons.

Martinez was arrested in the first days of the country's unpre-

cedented offensive against the drug trade, launched Aug. 18 after cartel-hired gunmen assassinated a popular presidential candidate, Luis Carlos Galan.

A U.S. narcotics official had said earlier at a news conference that the paperwork was going forward on an extradition request for Martinez. At least three other suspected drug traffickers who could be extradited have been caught in the government's crackdown.

The syndicated TV news programme Noticiero 24 Horas reported Tuesday night that government authorities notified Martinez of their plans to extradite him to the United States where he is charged with laundering drug profits. He was told he had five working days, or until next Tuesday, to appeal through his lawyers.

In Paris, meanwhile, there was a report that Pablo Escobar Garavita, the reputed leader of the Medellin cartel, said the drug traffickers would die fighting before allowing themselves to be extradited to the United States.

The daily *Liberation* printed

excerpts of a conversation Escobar allegedly had in a telephone contact with Colombia's secret service in which he proposed calling off his gang's war on the government if drug traffickers are allowed to rejoin society.

Escobar reportedly said in the discussion over the weekend that the drug traffickers would be willing to abandon to the state all of the property already seized by the government in its two-week-old crackdown on the drug trade.

In exchange, he said, the drug traffickers want to be allowed to integrate into society without being arrested. He also reportedly issued a warning of what would happen if the government spurned the peace offer.

"There will be some deaths, always more deaths," Escobar said, according to the newspaper. "I will give orders. Some journalists and some magistrates — they will pay."

By Colombian Justice Minister Monica de Greiff, whose life has been threatened by the drug barons, said in Washington Tuesday that the government would not negotiate.



Kaifu may call October election

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu could be on firm enough ground to call elections for parliament's powerful lower house in October if his U.S. trip is a success and his party wins an upcoming by-election, political analysts said.

Kaifu's trip could help boost both his own reputation and that of his scandal-ridden Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) by putting him in the international spotlight, analysts said.

"Japanese people see leadership in the management of foreign affairs, especially with the United States," said widely quoted political analyst Taizo Yakuishi at Saitama University.

Kaifu arrives in Washington Thursday for talks with U.S. President George Bush in Washington.

He will then travel to Mexico for discussions with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and to Canada for talks with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Kaifu's trip may deflect voter focus from recent scandals ahead of an upper house by-election Oct. 1 in Ibaraki, a prefecture northeast of Tokyo.

The by-election will be a crucial test of LDP efforts to improve its image before lower house elections, analysts said. If the LDP-backed candidate wins, party members will be more confident about holding a quick election. The LDP must call the poll before July 1990.

If last Sunday's Kyoto mayoral election is any indication, the LDP has made some gains since Kaifu became prime minister in early August.

Not only did the ruling party's candidate win, but more significantly the main opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP) candidate lagged far behind.

"The reason is that the JSP couldn't mobilise its machine operation," Yakuishi said. "(The election) also suggests that the LDP still strong among local constituencies."

Optimism after the Kyoto poll may have spared Shin Kanemaru, considered an LDP kingmaker, to hint that a Lower House election could be called soon.

His remark spawned conflicting comments from leaders within the LDP, indicating internal controversy about the timing of the election, analysts said.

One faction leader has suggested the election should not be called until the next financial year's budget is passed. That would delay an election until January.

Another factor in the LDP's favour is the announcement that the Emperor Akihito's youngest son, Prince Aya, plans to marry. This has pushed scandals, an unpopular sales tax and other domestic political articles off newspaper front pages.



All-out war between the government and the Medellin cartel — A cocaine lab in Antioquia burns during a military operation.

Colombo says security problem under control

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's foreign minister said Wednesday the government was "on top" of the country's security problem as reports came in for more political killings by suspected leftist rebels and vigilante squads.

"We are on top of the problem," said Ranjan Wijeratne, who is also deputy defence minister. "The police and the security forces are going all out to hit them (leftwing rebels)."

Wijeratne spoke to Reuters on the telephone before leaving for Yugoslavia as head of the Sri Lanka delegation at the Non-Aligned Summit meeting.

Military sources and residents reported more killings by suspected members of the people's Liberation Front and counter attacks by vigilante squads.

Residents at Anuradhapura, in north-central province, said 10 burned bodies were found smouldering Wednesday at Shira-

vastipura, six kilometres from the town.

They said the men were killed by pro-government vigilante squads which have threatened to destroy 12 families of rebels for each serviceman's family killed.

The front has said it will wipe out the families of security personnel who do not resign their posts.

The residents said the parents of a policeman were shot dead and the father of another police was killed Tuesday night in separate attacks by suspected rebels.

Rebels set fire overnight to 10 houses belonging to servicemen close to Anuradhapura, the residents said.

A government statement said 240 suspected rebels were rounded up. Thursday and four rebels were shot dead by the security forces.

It said the rebels burned four buses Tuesday in different parts

of the island.

The front, made up of radical youths of the majority Sinhalese community, has been accused by Wijeratne of trying to topple the government by force. About 4,000 people have been killed in its two-year anti-government campaign.

The front has crippled state and commercial activities on the island this week with a five-day general strike called from last Monday.

Officials said staff turned up at office Wednesday but did not work because of threats from the front.

Official sources said Wijeratne was likely to hold informal discussions with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Belgrade or Sri Lanka's row with India over the withdrawal of Indian troops.

"However, no meeting has been set so far," an official said.

Column O

Stolen purse, memories returned

WASHINGTON (AP) — The money was gone, but the workers' figure Alice Wilson would still like to have back the purse they found behind an old department store cabinet. They were right. Found nearly two decades after it was stolen, it was like her own personal time capsule. There were pictures, an address book, old telephone numbers, memories. The construction workers who found it — Chuck William and Tracy Johnston — eventually found Wilson, using the phone numbers. "It was my favorite purse at the time because it was given to me for my birthday," Wilson, now 39, said Tuesday. "Never in a million years did I think I would get that purse back." Inside was her learner's permit for driving. There were photos of her high school sweetheart, her girlfriends from high school. There was her then-new voter registration card, along with gold-coloured lipstick and makeup. There was a photo of her mother smoking a cigarette. Wilson happily said her mom has since given up the habit.

Man campaigns for slower world

PONTYPRIDD, Wales (AP) — Myrddin Thomas was fined Thursday for driving too slowly, but said he'd do it again because "The world is going too fast." The former coal miner was fined £50 (\$80) by magistrates for driving 30 kilometres per hour in a 50-kilometre-per-hour zone, causing a 3-kilometre traffic backup. "When he was cautioned by police he said he always drives slowly," prosecutor Alison Morris told the court. Magistrate Richard Evans told Thomas his driving could cause frustrated motorists behind him to crash.

Thomas' campaign has crippled state and commercial activities on the island this week with a five-day general strike called from last Monday.

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"However, no meeting has been set so far," an official said.

Cholera hits Vietnamese refugees in squalid camp

HONG KONG (R) — Three Vietnamese boat people living in conditions described as "squalid" on a remote Hong Kong Island have contracted cholera and a fourth suspected case is under observation, a government doctor said.

Government doctor Lo Wai-Kee told reporters it was believed the victims caught the highly-infectious and sometimes fatal disease by eating contaminated shellfish.

All contracted cholera on Tai A Chau island where they spent a month after arriving in Hong Kong by boat from Vietnam. The incubation period for the disease is between two and five days.

Lo said the island had been put under a 10-day quarantine, with no movements of boat people on or off.

A medical team had started inoculating those on the island to prevent the disease from spreading.

Boat people normally spend up to a month on the island and are then moved onto a group of five ferries moored off another island northeast of Tokyo.

There are now some 55,300 boat people refugees in Hong Kong, more than 30,000 of whom arrived this year.

The three confirmed cholera cases are a 25-year-old woman, an 18-year-old girl, and a four-year-old child. A boy of 14 is under observation, suspected of having the disease.

Government doctor Lo Wai-Kee told reporters it was believed the victims caught the highly-infectious and sometimes fatal disease by eating contaminated shellfish.

There is a new wind blowing in Japanese society," the school's information pamphlet says. "Women have begun to change by seeking a more liveable existence, a richer life and a better relationship to men."

The Japanese have always been the marrying kind: only four per cent remain single in their late 40s, and the divorce rate is among the lowest in the world, government statistics show.

But a worrisome gap has developed in people's expectations of marriage. Some women are delaying marriage and rejecting the traditional roles of wife and mother, while men continue to cling to the status quo.

Ms. Higuchi, a women's studies professor at Tokyo's Keio University, expects that most students will be single and shopping for a spouse, but married men also are welcome. The only requirement is that an applicant be a high school graduate.

The idea for the course grew out of Ms. Higuchi's belief that men don't understand today's Japanese women, who are economically and emotionally more independent than their mothers. Rather than teach a

man how to trap a bride, the school's aim will be to instruct men in how to be independent, understanding partners.

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This has sent both sexes running to matchmaking services — today's video-equipped versions of the traditional arranged marriage.

From mom-and-pop shops to slick, pricey operations, the services are thriving in Japanese cities, fuelled by high fees from their mostly male clients.

Most Japanese men, lacking the time, inclination and necessity to court women, have long relied on matchmakers to arrange marriages to women who will provide children and a stable home. Love, although often an unexpected bonus that developed later, was rarely part of the marriage deal. Mistresses were common.

Global weather (major world cities)

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
AMSTERDAM	14	57	22	68	23	65	63
ATHENS	20	52	22	55	23	56	54
BAHRAIN	30	85	40	103	40	99	97
BANGKOK	25	77	32	80	78	80	78
BUENOS AIRES	10	50	23	59	23	59	57
CARDO	22	72	33	91	73	91	89
CHICAGO	21	68	29	85	29	85	83
COPENHAGEN	05	46	18	54	46	54	52
FRANKFURT	08	46	17	63	46	63	61
GENEVA	07	45	19	63	45	63	61
HONG KONG	28	82	32	93	82	93	91
ISTANBUL</td							